

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title of the invention as follows:

**DEVICE AND METHOD FOR CHANGING CONNECTION DATA ~~CHANGE METHOD~~
AND DEVICE, AND FOR CONNECTION WITH AN EXTERNAL SWITCHING UNIT**

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at page 3, line 9 as follows:

In order to reestablish the connections, it is necessary to perform the connection setup from a stage of storing the route information 20a through 20d in the ATM switching units 18a through 18d. Therefore, SVC requires a predetermined ~~given~~ period of time in each connection setup, thus taking time in failure recovery.

Further, as in SVC, it is also required in SPVC to perform the connection setup from the stage of storing the route information in each of the ATM switching units if all the connections are released due to a failure occurring on the network after the connections are established. In this case, there is a problem in that the connections are prevented from being established until the message signal transmission and reception is completed between each connected ones of the ATM switching units so that the route information is stored therein.

Please amend page 3, line 28 as follows:

DISCLOSURE SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 24 as follows:

~~FIG. 9 is a diagram~~ FIGs. 9A and 9B are diagrams showing a network configuration for illustrating an operation at a time of a connection reset;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 5 as follows:

The connection management data table 40 of FIG. 5 has a configuration shown in FIG. 6.

FIG. 6 is a diagram showing the configuration of the connection management data table 40. In FIG. 6, connection management data 53 is set for each line number in ~~on~~ the connection data management table 40.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 37 as follows:

Thereafter, through the same operations ~~operation~~ as steps S170 through S190, the connection management data 53 of corresponding line numbers is extracted from a connection management data table 40b in accordance with the information on the analysis results, and the connection management data 53 is altered. Further, through the same operations as steps S200 through S220, it is determined whether the switching unit 30b has an adjacent node, and if it is determined that the switching unit 30b has an adjacent node (the switching unit 30c in FIG. 11, for instance), the connection change request 60 is supplied to the switching unit 30c through the signal channel 46.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 17 as follows:

Next, a description will be given, with reference to FIGS. 14 through 18 of a third embodiment of the present invention. FIGS. 14 and 15 are diagrams for illustrating the third embodiment of the switching unit of the present invention. Each of the switching units 30a through 30c of FIGS. 14 and 15 has the same configuration structure as the switching unit of

FIG. 4, and has its necessary parts for illustrating the third embodiment shown in the corresponding drawing.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at page 19, line 4 as follows:

FIG. 18 is a diagram showing a configuration of the batch change data 62. The batch change data 62 includes a batch-change-enabled line number and a batch change connection type. For instance, the batch change connection type is SVC and SPVC in the batch change data 62 of FIG. 18.

In step S270 after step S260, a connection operation for establishing connections by SVC/SPVC is performed. The operation of step S270 is performed, for instance, in accordance with the procedure of a sequence drawing shown in FIG. 17. FIG. 17 is a diagram showing a sequence drawing for illustrating an operation process of the batch connection change.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 30 as follows:

In step S330, the message compilation part 37a edits the connection change request message 60 to be transmitted to the adjacent node, and supplies the connection change request message 60 to the adjacent node notification part 35a. Then, in step S340 after step S330, the adjacent node notification part 35a supplies the connection change request message 60 to the adjacent node of the switching unit 30b.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 36 as follows:

Next, a description will be given, with reference to FIGS. 26 through 30, of a sixth embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 26 is a diagram for illustrating the sixth embodiment

of the switching unit of the present invention. Each of the switching units 30a through 30d and a switching unit 30d has the same configuration structure as the switching unit of FIG. 4, and has its necessary parts for illustrating the fifth embodiment shown in the drawing.